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ABSTRACT

Ideas for using nonprint materials that have been successful in the public libraries of Illinois are briefly summarized. Identified by originating library, ideas are categorized by type of material used. These include records and cassettes, films, filmstrips and loops, slides, pictures, transparencies, videotapes, toys, displays, and animals. Program ideas suitable for pre-school, lower elementary, and upper elementary grades are presented. (NR/PF)

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CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS' SECTION - ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FALL WORKSHOPS ON NONPRINT MATERIALS - SEPTEMBER, 1975

In order to get "feed-back" on the use of nonprint materials in the children's departments of public libraries, reporting forms were sent to all libraries in the State Systems. Many thanks to all of you who took time to respond to Idea Clearinghouse. The ideas you sent are included under various subject headings in this newsletter.

RECORDS AND CASSETTES

Records and Cassettes are the most frequently listed items for a library's nonprint collection. Most reporting libraries included these items in their library materials collection.

Glencoe - Tapes, recorded from records, are used to "set the mood" for programs.

Antioch - uses Disneyland "records with books." Kids can listen to a story and follow along in the book.

Park Forest - Cassettes are used to tell a story while figures, etc. are added to a magnetic board (more satisfactory than flannel-board).

Chester - uses tapes and records for sing-a-longs during story hours.

Indian Trails (Wheeling) - Records such as Hap Palmer's are used during story times.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - Holt Rinehart Instant Readers (books with cassettes) can be checked out.

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Woodridge - Tape cassettes with a paperback book are a popular check-out item.

Cook Memorial (Libertyville) - Weston Woods paperback-record sets have been a big success. The items are circulated together in a plastic bag.

Bridgeview - Book and cassette packs are popular with children.

8mm AND 16mm FILMS

Antioch - works in cooperation with the Village Summer Recreation Program by showing 16mm films for children.

Park Forest - uses 16mm films in a variety of ways as stimuli for creative activities. Films on a theme encourage children to find books on a subject. Abstract films are useful in creative writing groups. Dramatics groups view films, then act out situations. Film discussion groups might be set up. "Friday Freebies" are film programs for two different age groups.

Columbia - High school student volunteers run the projector for Saturday film programs. Santa even stops by at Christmas.

Eisenhower (Harwood Heights) - Friday Film Festivals are popular as well as special film programs at holiday times.

Chester - films are an "added attraction" for story hours.

Evanston - School holidays are a popular time for 16mm film programs. Sunday afternoon family film programs have also been tried. Making a movie without a camera involved using old 16mm film which was bleached. Children colored directly on the film with markers. The film runs through a standard projector.

Helen Matthes Library (Effingham) - Weekly one-hour film programs have been popular this summer.

Warren-Newport - We are planning a film festival of 8mm films made by area children.

Woodridge - In a very successful program children made their own animated films.

Schiller Park - Weekly film programs are popular, using films from the System.

Rock Island - Five film time sessions have been held this summer and have been very successful.

Withers (Bloomington) - A special screen attached to the back of the bookmobile has been used for outdoor movies. It has an oiled surface and was made by an awning shop.

Cook Memorial (Libertyville) - has held film making workshops for Junior High age. These included drawing on bleached 16 mm film, as well as animation using an 8mm camera.

Arlington Heights - Junior High's used pins to scratch through blank 16mm film. The "squiggles" were colored with magic marker and shown with electronic music for accompaniment.

FILM STRIPS AND FILM LOOPS

Mount Prospect - uses filmstrips (on a projector) as part of their storytime sessions.

Glencoe - uses a sound filmstrip projector for large groups at special programs.

Indian Trails (Wheeling) - Weston Woods multi-media bags are used to store filmstrip, cassette and paperback book (one of each). The bags attach with hooks to a rod. A Dukane sound filmstrip viewer has been a popular piece of equipment for library use.

Schiller Park - Filmstrips with cassettes for in-house viewing appeal to non-readers. A Junior High group is creating a sound filmstrip, adapting the tale of Goldilocks. The illustrations are drawn on filmstrip, a script is being written, and music researched. A kit from Scholastic AV, Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: "Draw Your Own Filmstrips," is being used.

Lake Villa - The Animal Box (Walt Disney) film loops can be used in the library.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - Super 8mm loops are available on puppet-making, current events, and old newsreels. Schools may use them and the projector for a week; individuals for a day.

Arlington Heights - Sound filmstrips of interest to pre-school through high school are available for use in the library. They circulate to schools on one-day loan. Film loops are for use in the library and are used for pre-school story hours. Junior High's drew their own film strips at a summer workshop.

SLIDES

Glencoe - uses slides taken in the children's room for class visits. Slides made from children's book illustrations are useful for story hours. Commercial slides are also used for special programs on different subjects.

Portage-Cragin Branch (Chicago Public) - will put together a slide-tape of children speaking about books they have enjoyed.

Cook Memorial (Libertyville) - The "Visualmaker" was used to produce slides from picture books. These can be accompanied by music or narration. We have also drawn on slides (Kodak Ektagraphic Write-on Slides) with magic marker to animate stories.

Bridgeview - also used the Visualmaker (from SAVS) to make their own slides from picture books.

Arlington Heights - made a slide-sound presentation using pictures taken in the library. It was used as a library introduction for class tours.

PICTURES, POSTERS AND ART PRINTS

"Mini-Masters" - are small, framed prints of famous paintings available from Gaylord. They are popular for check-out in Mount Prospect, Rockford, Flagg Township (Rochelle), Woodridge (plans to do in future), Lake Villa, Rock Island, Alpha Park (Bartonville).

Glencoe - laminates enlarged copies of illustrations in children's books to circulate.

Columbia - loans sets of study prints - large colored pictures on various subjects.

Indian Trails (Wheeling) - mounts posters on "foamcore" obtained from an art supply store. Glued with 3M 77 permanent bonding spray adhesive, then covered with Vistafoil (thinner than Contac) from Highsmith. Cost approximately $2.00 (excluding cost of poster).

Woodridge - loans posters to patrons.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - laminates posters for circulation.

Arlington Heights has used foamcore to mount posters, but will now try laminating them.

TRANSPARENCIES

Woodridge - makes transparencies for use in the library.

Arlington Heights - Transparencies can be made from bleached x-ray film. Illustrations from books can be traced and colored with magic markers or original drawings can be used to accompany stories.

VIDEOTAPE AND TELEVISION

Helen Matthes Library (Effingham)- has appeared on local television during Children's Book Week.

Arlington Heights - a Junior High video class taped a Junior High puppet workshop. The tape will be available to both schools and the library.

OTHERS

Flagg Township (Rochelle)- An accordion with music (bought at a garage sale) is a very popular item.

Carbondale - Oversize reproductions of card catalogs are a good teaching device.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - uses teaching machines - Grolier Pre-Reading Enrichment Program and World Book Cyclo-Teacher - for programmed learning for both pre-schoolers and primary grade children.

EQUIPMENT SUGGESTIONS

Wilmette - has recently added a three-sided A-V carrel, made inexpensively of Tri-Wall cardboard.

Evanston - has installed a listening area with record player and cassette player, each with headphones.

Woodridge - has a tape player that patrons may borrow. Also talking book machines are available.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - calculators, cassette recorders, and 8-track players are available to children. With adult supervision they may also use film projectors, adders, typewriters, and a magnifier. Loan periods vary from one day to three weeks.

Arlington Heights - has a listening and viewing area with cassette players, a record player, a film loop viewer, an automatic sound filmstrip viewer, and three filmstrip viewer-cassette player combinations for sound and silent filmstrips.

TOYS, PUZZLES, AND GAMES

Glencoe - has a "Toy Shelf" of non-circulating toys and "dress-me" dolls for children to use in the library.

Sycamore - a collection of donated puzzles circulate to anyone. These include puzzles from pre-school to adult level. The "honor system" for check-out means no extra work or expense for the library.

Park Forest - has a stuffed toy collection for "in-library" cuddling.

Columbia - gifts of puzzles and games are popular loan items for children.

Eisenhower (Harwood Heights) - loans toys. A group of wooden educational toys was purchased and duplicates were made by high school shop classes. A program for parents introduces various toys and suggestions are made for using games and toys with children. Donated puzzles and coloring books are available for children's use.

Charleston - makes their own puzzles from book jackets. They are stored in plastic bags.

LaGrange - donated puzzles are a popular collection. Gaylord card boxes can be used to store them if the original boxes are in bad shape. For flat tray puzzles we use Picture Cover from Gaylord.

Indian Trails (Wheeling) - makes their own covers for pre-school puzzles from a vinyl material (frosty vinyl). Cost is 89¢ per yard, three envelopes per yard. It is taped together with wide clear book tape. Canvas drawstring bags are used to house the toy collection. Cost is $1.23 per bag. Games are kept in original boxes but corners are taped with book tape. There is also a selection of games for use in library only.

Helen Matthes Library (Effingham) - Flash cards, crossword and picture puzzles, and games are available for use in the department.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - has a circulating Toy Lending Library as well as toys and games for use in the library, such as Monopoly, checkers, dominoes, Spill and Spell, and Masterpiece. Finger puppets and dolls also circulate. The Regional Education and Media Information Service and the Educational Materials Center in DeKalb have loaned things for us to determine what we wanted to buy.

Woodridge - Crossword puzzles are available for use in the library. Home-made toys are also in the library for young children to use. "Turn around" dolls are used to tell stories. Simple puzzles and flash cards donated to the library circulate.

Marissa - donated games and word games are kept available for children and adults. For small children we are experimenting with jigsaw puzzles made from pictures taken from discarded books glued to packing carton cardboard.

Schiller Park - has a "fun and games" session on Friday nights; cards, chess, checkers, war games, reading readiness and puzzles.

Lake Villa - has jigsaw puzzle exchange as well as game collection.

Cook Memorial (Libertyville) - We have made puzzles from book jackets glued to masonite for a circulating collection.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - puts out jigsaw puzzles for "help" in putting together. Games in the library include chess and Monopoly. Tournaments are held using favorite games. The circulating toy collection is in its third year and includes toys, games and puzzles. Recommended companies are Playskool, Creative Playthings, Captain Kangaroo, Milton Bradley, Parker Brothers (which will supply missing pieces at cost). Ideal crossword puzzles are laminated so they can be used many times. Many jigsaw puzzles are supplied by the community.

A modified Anglo-American is used for cataloging, as well as Canadian Library Association's "Non-Book Materials." Simple descriptions are used.

Arlington Heights - has had a toy collection for in-library use, but is now planning a circulating toy and game collection. A Monopoly Marathon this summer had 80 children playing in 13 hours; every one-half hour a new group could take their place at the board. Four "More than a Toy" kits include toys, books and pamphlets for pre-school hearing impaired children and their parents.

DISPLAYS

Charleston - A display of crafts from Colonial times, plus materials that might have been used in a Colonial school (horn books, slates, quill pens, etc.) is of special interest for the Bicentennial.

Evanston - Children's own collections are put on display for a month at a time, and we are "booked" months in advance. Nursery school art work also is popular.

Allerton (Monticello) - crafts that were done at the library during summer classes were displayed.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - Several 6th graders put on one-person shows of their art work.

Shawneetown - Displays of dolls, Easter eggs, old buttons and bottles have been enjoyed by children.

Woodridge - displays original drawings by children's authors.

Marissa - A collection of children's ceramics has been displayed. We plan to display photography from grade and high school classes. Hobby exhibits from our patrons are also displayed.

Schiller Park - a Bicentennial wall quilt, 200 years of favorite stories, is growing as children sew their favorite characters to 12" squares which will be sewn together.

Kaskaskia Center - uses book covers as an art gallery, then follows up with children's original drawings and dioramas illustrating stories from books or records.

Arlington Heights - Junior High art students had a month-long display of their work. Old fashioned toys collected from staff members and friends were a popular display, as were toy soldiers.

LIVE ONES

Eisenhower (Harwood Heights) - resident pets include two gerbils and three goldfish.

LaGrange - a local pet store loaned a cage of mice which was used with a week of pre-school stories and movies about mice. Perhaps a cooperative pet store might do this on a rotating basis.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - Hamsters and goldfish make their home here.

Arlington Heights - An iguana, donated by a patron, has spent a year in the department.

PROGRAM IDEAS

PRE-SCHOOL

Niles - At a recent workshop flannelboard pieces were made from Pellon, which is inexpensive, can be washed, and traced or colored on.

LaGrange - also uses this idea for flannel board pieces.

Lebanon - offers story hours one day a week for pre-schoolers with original finger play.

Genoa - Volunteer story tellers offer a summer reading program for pre-schoolers.

Brookfield - Children made their own musical instruments from cans, oatmeal boxes, tubes and cartons. They also made construction paper hats and held a "musical" parade in the library.

Sheffield - Children brought pictures of their favorite animals to decorate the check-out desk and room as part of the "Animals" theme this summer.

Arlington Heights - A group of older children dramatized Cinderella for 4 or 5 year olds, complete with costumes.

Park Forest - A blackboard comes in handy for story telling;"Tell and Draw Stories" by Margaret Oldfield, P.O. Box 572, Minneapolis, Minn., 55440 is a good source of ideas.

Bridgeview - used cumulative stories such as "The Turnip." Paper figures were distributed ahead of time and children helped tell the story by adding their figure to the board at the right time.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Markham - used the "Grolier New Book of Knowledge Reading Activities Box" as a basis for a program planned for children and their parents. It should improve the child's reading ability as well as make the parent aware of reading/learning difficulties.

Wilmette - offers "Birthday Parties in the Library." Parents supply refreshments and favors. Staff members offer stories, crafts and games.

Polo-Buffalo Township - A large cardboard tree "grew" this summer as children added green paper leaves with their names and their favorite book. Even butterflies, bees, flowers, and a snake have sprouted there.

Zeigler - storytime gets a new dimension when short descriptions of unknown animals are a starting point for children to create their own pictures or make an animal from material, wire, spools, egg cartons, etc.

Evansville - children were able to join a leaf and rock collecting contest with books on the subjects given as prizes.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - Browsing sticks made of cardboard help children return books to the proper place on shelves. When a book is pulled out, the browsing stick is slipped in its place.

Warren-Newport - a bookmark contest had 400 entries. The winning bookmarks were duplicated at a "quick-print" and used at the library.

Portage-Cragin Branch (Chicago Public) - Children "Back-Packed" through summer reading. Not only did they read books, but they completed fun sheets on use of reference books, etc.

Marissa - Two of our most popular story sessions involved live music (a teacher brought her guitar for a sing-a-long) and live animals brought by a patron.

Bridgeview - Finger-painting sessions were fun - huge plastic garbage bags with head and arm holes cut out protected the kids. Macaroni necklaces, dyed with food coloring, are another fun project.

Coulterville - Children from 4 to 12 enjoyed summer story hours, now in the 18th year.

Central School Reading Center (Ellis Grove) - An all-volunteer staff works hard to make books and records available to children.

Arlington Heights - Children in grades 4 and 5 wrote and illustrated their own stories and poems, which were put in book form and displayed at an Authors' Tea.

Park Forest - Collages and felt banners are being made by children this year. Each child can adapt an idea from a film or book to a small square. The squares are pieced to make large hangings.

Columbia - Stories, games, and crafts are all part of summer story hours. During National Library Week a local school art contest produced designs for bookmarks. The winning design was used by Kaskaskia Library System.

Allerton (Monticello) - With the assistance of students from ISU the library sponsored summer theatre for children in grades 1-6. Three big productions involved making sets and costumes and scheduling rehearsals. Over 200 attended each performance.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Wilmette - Sports Sculpture was a great hit - wire figures pounded into a wooden base and wrapped with plaster bandages.

Brookfield - A professional hairdresser volunteered to "cut and set" during a summer session that stressed nutrition, health and grooming.

Stinson (Anna) - An arts and crafts show was sponsored by the Homemakers Extension. A gardening table, with lots of information on the subject, was also popular.

Park Forest South - Boxes full of anything attract children's attention, so we decorated a medium-sized box, marked it Book Surprises and filled it with interesting and unusual books - a unique display which children love to browse through.

Charleston - Summer readers followed Paul Revere's ride with six stops along the way. Paper horses were used as markers. The members of the "Mad Scientists' Club" displayed science projects at the library, using information from library "how-to-do" books.

Allerton (Monticello) - A junior high newspaper, complete with editors, reporters and production managers, was a big summer success.

Flagg Township (Rochelle) - a treasure hunt for 6th graders involves long paper slips with fiction and non-fiction titles. Children place them next to the books on the shelves when they find them.

Carbondale - 4th through 6th graders are making their own books this summer, creating their own stories and illustrations.

Rockford - A paper folding workshop proved to be fun for children.

Woodridge - An annual Bookmark Contest is held in the fall. The winner is the official children's department bookmark for the year.

Lake Villa - Also has a bookmark contest for Children's Book Week. Bus trips to the Aquarium, Planetarium and Milwaukee Zoo have been sponsored by the library. Each year there is a Christmas tree trimming contest and an Easter tree trimming (with spring flowers naming favorite books).

Bridgeview - Older kids made their own ice cream as part of folklore sessions.

Alpha Park (Bartonville) - Arts and crafts workshops such as decoupage, macrame, and string art have been tried.

Arlington Heights - A small group of Junior High "editors" wrote, designed and printed several issues of their own newspaper. Other groups of Junior High students wrote and illustrated their own stories and poems, which were put in book form and displayed at an Authors' Tea.